

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ACCRA 03598 292121Z

71

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SMI-01 CU-04 SS-20 SSO-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

/046 W

----- 088650

O R 292048Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4079

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ACCRA 3598

FOR AF PASS DEPUTY ASST SECY BLAKE UPON RECEIPT.

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

REFERENCE: STATE 141432, STATE 132524

1. REGRET INABILITY REPORT SOONER ON STATUS WOLUMEI PARTICIPATION. LEADER OF GROUP, SAKA ACQUAYE, WHO WAS HOPEFUL RAISING FUNDS PRIVATELY FINANCE TRAVEL FOR GROUP AND HAD REPEATEDLY ASSURED EMBASSY PAST WEEKS TROUPE WOULD SUCCEED OBTAINING FUNDS, ADMITTED FINALLY THIS EVENING THAT WOLUMEI UNABLE DEPART. FINAL APPEAL TO NRC SECRETARY DEBRAH TODAY BY ACQUAYE FOR NRC FUNDING ALSO FAILED. PAO ALSO INTERCEDED TODAY WITH DEBRAH, AND EARLIER IN THE WEEK WITH COMMISSIONER FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE. GA MANTSE, HIGHEST TRIBAL LEADER ACCRA AREA, ALSO INTERCEDED IN WRITING WITH CHAIRMAN OF NRC WITHOUT EFFECT. IT MAY PERHAPS BE THAT STRONG GA IDENTIFICATION OF WULOMEI INFLUENCED NEGATIVE NRC DECISION, ALTHOUGH THIS HIGHLY DOUBTFUL SINCE GOVERNMENT APPEARED WILLING PERMIT WULOMEI REPRESENT GHANA OFFICIALLY IF WOLUMEI COULD FIND THE FUNDS.

2. EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER STOOD BY ALL DAY TODAY TO ISSUE VISAS, BUT GROUP FAILED TO APPEAR. GROUP HAS NO FIRM AIR BOOKINGS, ALTHOUGH THERE DOES SEEM BE SPACE AVAILABLE ON GH FLIGHT TO LONDON 0700, JULY 1. ONWARD BOOKING LONDON-NEW YORK-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ACCRA 03598 292121Z

WASHINGTON WOULD HAVE TO BE ARRANGED.

3. IN EARLIER COMMUNICATION WITH SMITHSONIAN EMBASSY PROPOSED THAT SINCE SI UNABLE BOOK WULOMEI FOR APPEARANCES OUTSIDE OF WASHINGTON AS ORIGINALLY ENVISIONED, FUNDS THUS SAVED BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR LAST MINUTE FINANCING OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL IF THIS PROVED NECESSARY. SINCE SI NEVER RESPONDED TO THIS SUGGESTION WE ASSUMED THS POSSIBILITY DID NOT EXIST. EMBASSY, IN ANY CASE, WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO SEE US PICK UP THE ENTIRE TAB AT LAST MINUTE--PARTICULARLY SINCE SOME ELEMENTS HERE HAVE BEEN BANKING ON OUR DOING JUST THAT.

4. IF, HOWEVER, AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IS ENDANGERED, THAT IS, IF NIGERIA ALSO NOT FIRM, SI MIGHT WISH TO SAVE PIECES BY USING FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR NIGERIA TO FINANCE WULOMEI TRAVEL. FOR 25 PASSENGERS AND INSTRUMENTS, ALLOW \$25-20,000.

5. EMBASSY IS NOT BY ANY MEANS RECOMMENDING US PICK UP TAB. HOWEVER IT APPEARS THAT SI MAY HAVE MORE AT STAKE THAN THE PRINCIPLE OF PAYMENT. TO OUR MINDS, IF GOG BEEN UNWILLING PAY PASSAGE OF WULOMEI IT COULD HAVE GRATEFULLY DECLINED SI INVITATION LONG AGO.

6. IF FUNDS FOR WULOMEI ARE FOUND, REQUEST RESPONSE NIACT IMMEDIATE. EMBASSY WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE FACILITATE DEPARTURE. HOWEVER, ARRIVAL BEFORE JULY 3 HARDLY POSSIBLE.

7. WHILE SITUATION WITH WULOMEI COULD PERHAPS NOT BEEN AVOIDED, END RESULT REPRESENTS EMBARRASSMENT FOR MISSION AND SUGGESTS NEED FOR BETTER LIAISON BY SI WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MISSIONS ON SIMILAR UNDERTAKINGS IN THE FUTURE.
HADSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS, CULTURAL EXHIBITS, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ACCRA03598
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740173-0576
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974062/aaaaaaws.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 141432, STATE 132524
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 AUG 2002 by PhilliRO>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL
TAGS: SCUL, GH, SMI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005